

Edna Wilson
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Palm Beach Junior College

A brief survey of educational development in Florida shows that

1. Palm Beach Junior College was the first public junior college in Florida. It was organized in 1933 and since that time has served hundreds of young people through offering a high standard of college work in this community.

2. Palm Beach Junior College was the first junior college in Florida to be accepted for participation in the new Foundation Program of Education which was adopted by the last Florida legislature. This means that our college now receives State support on the basis of average daily attendance and qualifications of instructors as is the case with all other elements of the State's program in public education.

3. Since 1941 Palm Beach Junior College has been a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. This is the highest accreditation obtainable. With membership in the Southern Association, a regional accrediting agency, the credits of Palm Beach Junior College are automatically accepted by all the other regional accrediting agencies in the United States. Completion of two years of college work in Palm Beach Junior College with a grade of C or better in all subjects, qualifies a student to enter the junior year of any college or university which accepts credits from other institutions.

During the present year 341 students have been enrolled in Palm Beach Junior College. (The attendance at the present time is slightly under 300.) For the first time, facilities for the accommodation of resident students became available when the college moved to its present location.

The principle resident areas of students attending the college naturally centers in Palm Beach County, but it is now increasingly

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evident that a wider area of service is being developed. Students from New Hampshire, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Ohio, Maine, Illinois, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Connecticut, District of Columbia and Bogota, Colombia, are in attendance. The presence of these young people from various parts of this country as well as South America, makes us keenly aware of the untouched possibilities whereby our winter visitors may have their young people attend a fully accredited junior college in West Palm Beach where they can join them for the winter season.

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Palm Beach Junior College recognizes that it has three great areas of service to this community as follows:

1. To offer two years of high standard college work for those students who are planning to complete their work on a degree at an institution of higher learning;
2. To offer two-year terminal courses consistent with the needs of this community for those students who wish to attain vocational efficiency in a chosen field but do not expect to continue their college work beyond the two year course offered here;
3. To offer additional courses on a college level to meet the needs of those in the community who wish to continue their work in education while employed.

In all three areas Palm Beach Junior College is rendering a service of the highest order and plans are in the making for further additions to the curriculum to meet the needs of this community for terminal courses of the types in which the young people of this area have shown interest and need.

A two-year course in Commercial Art was atted at the beginning of the present college year. Plans are being developed for the organization of a Department of Music which will be operated in connection with the College.

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Palm Beach Junior College is now located on a 21-acre campus in the northwest area of the former Morrison Field. Forty-six buildings are available for the use of the college and 80% are in use at the present time. The facilities available include many spacious class-rooms, adequate laboratories, dormitories, dining hall, chapel, auditorium, student union building, tennis courts, swimming pool, snack bar and a campus so well landscaped and maintained that it presents an appearance comparable to some of the finest institutions in the country. Government officials who have visited the campus have acclaimed the transition from an army facility to an educational institution. They do not say that it is the best in the country but frequent remarks have been made to the effect that "it is the best we have seen".

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